



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1895-03-18

Letter from Anna Merrill Foster to [Annie L. Muir], 1895 Mar 18.

Anna Merrill Foster

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we shall be willing
to keep for life.
We are homesick
and long to settle
down and change
about no more.
I suppose you feel
that you have too
homes now that
so many of you
are in that paradise
of an Alhambra
valley. I wish I had
an opportunity of
seeing you. But this
book, I think,
shall somehow;
they would be de-
lightful reading.
You do not say
anything of those

Pasadena, March 18th.
Dear Miss Mun:
Perhaps
you are out here by
this time, too. The
little Phoebe was grow-
ing so thin and
weak shut up with
in the brick wall
of Baltimore that
I at last consented
to accept my father's
off repeated invita-
tion and go to them
in California. Such
separations are very
hard and I hope
we shall never be
compelled to do
such a thing again.

But Phoebe is thriving here and my father and mother are less lonely. My brother Sam is managing and working on the ranch down miles from here and we are all to move over to the new home next month. Mr. Foster will begin teaching again in the fall. But does not know yet in what part of this big country we may be. He so much prefers college teaching that he

would rather have such a position than receive a large salary in a public academy or high school. I wish you were an influential trustee of some flourishing educational institution and felt it necessary to fill a Chair of History and Economics or Literature, or Greek. It is going to be a very difficult matter for me to decide, for we are hoping with all our hope that a position will present itself which

little girls²; they were
very interesting to me.
Gambel's Mother is
at home now and
almost herself again,
~~every one~~ ^{every one} says,
but still very in-
vulnerable; her mother
is almost worn out
entertaining her, try-
ing to bring back
the old sunny girl.

I have had time
for reading here as
~~there is much to~~
do about the house
as well as caring
for the little girl
now fifteen months
old. The truth is

that I can just
squeeze in the
Outlook each week
and the Review of
Reviews; I grasp at
every minute. As
soon as we have
decided on our
next year's where-
abouts I shall write
and tell you, but
I hope to hear from
you before that.
I shall ask Mr. Foster
whether there is
still a picture of
Phoebe at one year.
Much love to you!
Your Friend
Anna Merrill Foster

The ranch address
will be
La Crescenta
Los Angeles Co.
Calif.

I'll be there all
summer.

[Marked "Indianapolis letters"]

[Evidently Miss Annie Muir is the one here addressed]

Pasadena, March 18, '95.

Dear Miss Muir:

Perhaps you are out here by this time, too. The little Phoebe was growing so thin and weak shut up within the brick walls of Baltimore that I at last consented to accept my father's oft-repeated invitation and go to them in California. Such separations are very hard, and I hope we shall never be compelled to do such a thing again. But Phoebe is thriving here and my father and mother are less lonely. My brother Sam is managing and working on the ranch seven miles from here, and we are all to move over to the new home next month. Mr. Foster will begin teaching again in the fall, but does not know yet in what part of this big country we may be. He so much prefers college teaching that he would rather have such a position than receive a large salary in a public academy or high school. I wish you were an influential trustee of some flourishing educational institution and felt it necessary to fill a chair of History and Economics, or Literature, or Greek. It is going to be a very difficult matter for us to decide, for we are hoping with all our hope that a position will present itself which we shall be willing to keep for life. We are homesick and long to settle down and change about no more.

I suppose you feel that you have two homes now that so many of you are in that paradise of an Alhambra Valley. I wish I had an opportunity of seeing your brother's books; I surely shall sometime; they would be delightful reading. You do not say anything of those little girls; they were very interesting to me. Janet Moores is at home now, and almost herself again, everyone says, but still very nervous; her mother is almost worn out entertaining her, trying to bring back the old sunny Janet.

I have less time for reading here, as there is much to do about the house as well as caring for the little girl now fifteen months old. The truth is that I can just squeeze in the Outlook each week and the Review of Reviews; I grasp at every minute. As soon as we have decided on our next year's whereabouts I shall write and tell you, but I hope to hear from you before that. I shall ask Mr. Foster whether there is still a picture of Phoebe at one year. Much love to you!

Your friend,

Anna Merrill Foster

The ranch address will be La Crescenta, Los Angeles Co., Calif. I'll be there all summer.